

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 were rejected as unpatentable over LEWIS 6,442,169 in view of LUDWIG et al 6,487,218. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The Official Action acknowledges that LEWIS does not disclose the system in claims 1-19 in which the remote access server receives a call from the subscriber terminal via the subscriber exchange, permits the resource control server to reserve the internet protocol address during an initial exchange of an initial address message and an address complete message between the subscriber terminal and remote access server before authentication of the subscriber terminal on the basis of information whether or not there is any internet protocol address to be assigned to the subscriber terminal. With regard to claims 20-38, LEWIS does not disclose the step of, in order, of notifying the remote access server of the call from the subscriber terminal to the subscriber exchange, exchanging an initial address message and an address complete message between the subscriber terminal and remote access server, and during this exchange confirming whether or not there is any internet protocol address to be assigned to the subscriber terminal by the resource control server and reserving the internet protocol address to be assigned to the subscriber terminal in the resource control server on the basis of the confirmation result of the resource control server.

The Official Action relies on LUDWIG et al. for the suggestion to modify LEWIS to include these features. The Official Action points to LUDWIG et al. column 11, lines 26-31 in support of the rejection and asserts that LUDWIG et al. disclose an IP address being assigned to a user before the process of authentication is failed or passed. Based on this statement, the Official Action concludes that the IP assignment is done between the initial request and the complete message.

Please note that the claims are more specific in their definition of when the IP address is reserved. The claims require the IP address to be reserved during an initial exchange of an initial address message (IAM) and an address complete message (ACM) between the subscriber terminal and the remote access server. The reservation is not made between any initial request and any complete message, as inferred in the Official Action. The initial exchange of an IAM and an ACM defines a time frame that is well understood in the art and carefully explained in the present application (e.g., Figure 6). The applicant is relying on the skill of the artisan to understand what is meant by this phrase, as the applicant is entitled to do. Just as an artisan in the mechanical arts knows how a spring works and does not require a complete definition of the spring action in a claim, the artisan in the present art knows that during an exchange of an IAM and an ACM refers to a specific timeframe and does not require a complete definition in the claim. The time

frame is further clarified by stating that the exchange is the initial exchange (not a terminal exchange, as implied in the Official Action). Further still, the method of claims 20-38 includes the steps in order that further clarifies precisely when the reservation is made.

Bearing this specificity in mind, there is nothing in LUDWIG et al. that suggests making the reservation during the claimed period. The Official Action relies on column 11, lines 26-31 in support of the rejection and concludes that the IP assignment is done between the initial request and the complete message. However, the reservation could come after the ACM, as in Figure 2 (prior art) of the present application or at some other time. Asserting that the reservation was made during the claimed event is speculative; there is nothing in the reference to indicate that the reservation was made during the initial exchange of the IAM and ACM as claimed. Such speculation cannot support a rejection under §103 and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

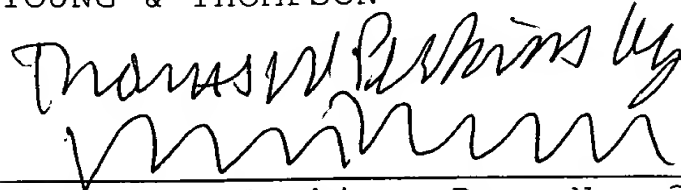
In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thomas W. Perkins", written over a horizontal line.

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